



ERHS softball win, p.15



Sculpture class, p.16

## Violent Spree Ends in Greenbelt With Bravery from Officer Inzeo

by Anna Bedford-Dillow



PHOTO BY MAGALI LAMARRE

Police respond to an armed man on Edmonston Road following a violent spree across several locations on Friday, May 15. This photo is from Greenbelt Road. The top of a welcome sign for Dora Kennedy French Immersion school is barely visible behind the police cars, on the left-hand side of the street.

On the afternoon of Friday, May 15, a man later identified as 68-year-old Larry James Simpson of Glen Burnie committed multiple shootings and carjackings at five locations across the northern portion of Prince George's County. Greenbelt schools and others in the area, including

University of Maryland, were placed on lockdown. Greenbelt resident and off-duty Prince George's County Police Department (PGPD) Officer Matthew Inzeo who says he was driving his personal vehicle and was unarmed, observed one of the carjackings and began to track

Simpson, relaying his location to his wife, Domenek Inzeo, also a PGPD officer.

### Simpson's Actions

On May 15, at approximately 2:30 p.m., officers received a call about a man pointing a long gun out of his car window in the 5100 block of Pierce

See SPREE, page 12

### Election 2026

#### Mail-in Ballot Error

This week some Greenbelters who requested and were sent a mail-in ballot prior to May 14, received a notice via email that it may be incorrect.

Due to an error in production, some voters may have received a ballot for the wrong party.

"You will receive your replacement ballot some time over the course of the next two weeks," advised the email. "It will be marked Replacement Ballot Inside."

Residents should vote with and return only the replacement ballot in the return envelope marked Replacement Envelope.

Anyone who was affected will receive two ballots. The second ballot says REPLACEMENT BALLOT, and the first should be destroyed along with its envelope.

For anyone who has already returned the first ballot, the local election office is able to identify these ballots and secure them. These ballots have been voided and the voter should mark and return the replacement ballot to ensure the ballot is counted.

Additional information should be included in the replacement ballot packet.

A voter can visit vote.md.gov/2026replacementmib to understand what will happen next and view frequently asked questions.

Those who have questions about voting this ballot can call 410-269-2840 or email absentee.SBE@maryland.gov.

## Collective Bargaining, Budget, Stop Signs Occupy Council

by Diane Oberg

At its May 11 meeting the Greenbelt City Council held its second public hearing on the proposed Fiscal Year (FY) 2027 budget, introduced legislation authorizing expanded collective bargaining for city employees and heard reports on stop sign enforcement, ranked choice voting and an update on crime in the county from the state's attorney.

### Budget

Council held its second public hearing on the proposed FY 2027 budget, which begins on July 1. Council is expected to adopt the budget at its Tuesday, May 26 meeting.

Resident Fred Gasper called for improvements to Hanover Parkway for pedestrian safety and better travel. City Manager Josué Salmerón referred him to page 277 of the budget document, which provides funding for improvements along Hanover Parkway from Ora Glen to Good Luck Road.

Gasper also called on the city to release information about

how to use the newly improved Schrom Hills Park practice field.

Resident Michael Hartman called for dedicating funds each year in a separate account for sidewalk improvements to work toward having a continuous, safe sidewalk system, over multiple years.

Resident and former councilmember Konrad Herling called for



PHOTO BY MICHAEL HARTMAN

At the City Council meeting on May 11, Prince George's County State's Attorney Tara Jackson makes brief remarks about issues of interest to Greenbelt residents and businesses.

## What Goes On

### Monday, May 25

Memorial Day Holiday: City Offices Closed, No City Council Meeting

### Tuesday, May 26

7:30 p.m. Council Meeting; Budget Adoption, Municipal Building

See the city ad on page 5 or the meetings calendar at greenbeltdmd.gov for more information.

## GHI Annual Meeting: Centerway Purchase Investigation and Election

by Joseph Ralbovsky

On May 14 over 200 attendees joined the hybrid online/in-person Annual Meeting for Greenbelt Homes Inc. (GHI) to make announcements, ask questions, listen to candidates running for the Board of Directors and Audit Committees, and to vote on a much-anticipated item of new business: Whether to authorize the Board of Directors to spend up to \$30,000 to investigate the viability of purchasing

121 Centerway, the home of the Greenbelt Consumer Cooperative (the Co-op).

Members gathered in the Community Center Gymnasium to query the current Board of Directors, as well as GHI staff, about certain elements of the annual report and actions being taken to ensure the physical and financial well-being of the housing cooperative, and

See GHI, page 8



PHOTO BY JILL CONNOR

Greenbelt Cooperative Supermarket

## Council Must Plan for How DEI Is to Fit within City's Structure

by Diane Oberg

How best to advance diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) in Greenbelt was the subject of much of the May 11 meeting of the Greenbelt City Council, it being raised during the public hearing on the budget and during the announced agenda item Discussion of DEI Position Proposals. Tyra Smith currently holds the position as the city's DEI officer.

While the proposed budget document presents no changes to the DEI officer position, the administration proposed restructuring it at the April 8 budget worksession.

Currently the DEI officer is a GC-15 level position in the city manager's office. A GC-15 position is one level down from that held by assistant department directors. The proposal, as laid out by Assistant City Manager Timothy George, is to eliminate the DEI officer position and transfer the responsibilities to a GC-11 position in the Human Resources (HR) Department. This position would

have additional responsibilities such as employee engagement. City Manager Josué Salmerón told the News Review that he did not present the change in the budget document since the position was created by council and thus any restructuring should be handled by them during the budget discussions.

George said that putting the DEI position in HR would create synergy and eliminate some

See DEI, page 8

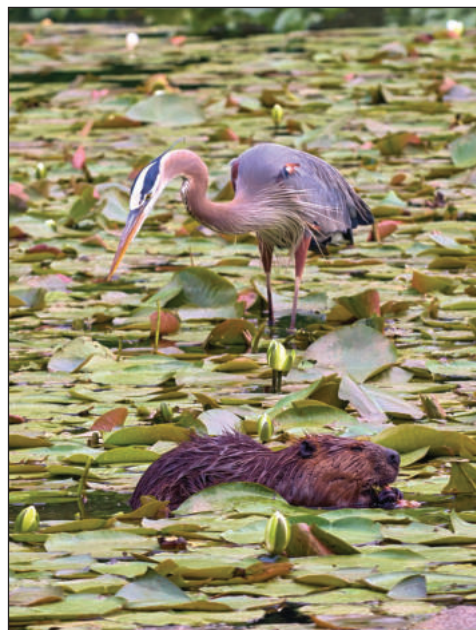


PHOTO BY JOSH LAYNE

A beaver and a great blue heron enjoy dinner at Greenbelt Lake.



# Letters to the Editor

## Unleashed Dog Attack Met with Impunity

On May 4, at approximately 8:30 a.m. my dog was attacked by an unleashed dog housed in a van parked on the private property of the closed St. Hugh's school.

My dog was attacked when I stopped to look through books in the box at the approach to the Lake, volleyball court and the tennis courts.

The police collected contact information from the person in the van claiming ownership of the dog. The address he gave the police was clearly false. Judging by his comments when he handed

me the address, the police knew it was false, but I was told they could not "force an ID."

The police could do nothing even though there were independent witnesses. St. Hugh's would take no responsibility for someone parked on their private property. Animal Control and Parking Enforcement: MIA.

I'm still trying to logic out the problem here. Is this a failure of the people or a failure of the system or both? I'm thinking it's both.

In closing, be advised you will have to depend upon yourself to protect your dog.

Lawrence Hawkins

## Notice to Our Customers

On May 11, an email was sent to at least some of our customers, supposedly from ads@greenbeltnewsreview.com, offering discounted rates and 10 percent refunds on eligible past transactions.

This email was not from us. We were hacked or spoofed. The recipients of the bogus email were all bcc'd, so we cannot identify and contact them to inform them of this deception.

Please treat the discount email as a scam and do not reply or interact with it.

We appreciate our customers' patronage and apologize for any inconvenience this scam may have caused.



## On Screen at Greenbelt Cinema

### Blue Heron

In the late 1990s, 8-year-old Sasha and her Hungarian immigrant family relocate to a new home on Vancouver Island. Their fresh start is interrupted by increasingly dangerous behavior from Jeremy, the family's oldest child.

### National Theatre Live: All My Sons

A manufacturer thrives financially during the war, but his success comes at a cost when his business associate takes the fall for wrongdoing and his boy disappears. With the war's end, he confronts the fallout from his decisions.

### The Sheep Detectives

In this witty, new breed of mystery, George (Hugh Jackman) is a shepherd who reads detective novels to his beloved sheep every night, assuming they can't possibly understand. But when a mysterious incident disrupts life on the farm, the sheep realize they must become the detectives. As they follow the clues and investigate human suspects, they prove that even sheep can be brilliant crime-solvers.

### WTO/99

This immersive archival documentary reanimates the clash between the then-emerging World Trade Organization (WTO) and the more than 40,000 people who took to the streets of Seattle to protest the WTO's impacts on the environment, human rights and labor.

### Pressure

In the tense 72 hours before D-Day, and with the fate of the free world hanging in the balance, the film follows General Dwight D. Eisenhower and Captain James Stagg as they face an impossible choice - launch the largest and most dangerous seaborne invasion in history or risk losing the war altogether.

### Tuner

In Tuner, Academy Award-winning director Daniel Roher's first narrative feature, Leo Woodall stars as Niki, a gifted young piano tuner, whose heightened sense of hearing draws the attention of criminals, who see his talents as useful for opening safes as well as for tuning Steinways. With his once-promising musical career over, he works across New York with his mentor Harry Horowitz (Academy Award-winner Dustin Hoffman), encountering a range of characters, including composition student Ruthie (Havana Rose Liu), with whom he forges an unexpected connection. Niki's safecracking work threatens his budding romance with Ruthie and pulls him into increasingly dangerous territory.





Greenbelt Cinema  
129 Centerway  
301-329-2034  
www.greenbeltcinema.org

Members always \$7.00!  
Member kids are always FREE!

After 5 PM: adults \$10, kids \$7,  
senior/student/military \$9

Before 5 PM:  
general admission \$8, kids \$6

**OC = Open Captions**  
**CC = Closed Captions**  
**DVS = Descriptive Video Service**

**SHOWTIMES:**  
**MAY 22nd - 28th**

**Blue Heron**  
(NR) (2025) (90 mins)  
In English and Hungarian with English subtitles

**Screen 1 - Main Auditorium**  
Fri. 8:00 PM  
Sat. 5:30 PM  
Sun. 5:25 PM  
Wed. 4:45 PM

**Screen 2 - The Screening Room**  
Fri. 5:15 PM, Sat. 8:15 PM  
Sun. 2:45 PM, Mon. 4:30 PM  
Tue. 7:30 PM, Thurs. 7:15 PM

**National Theatre Live: All My Sons**  
(NR) (CC) (2026) (135 mins)

**Screen 1 - Main Auditorium**  
Wed. 7:00 PM

**Screen 2 - The Screening Room**  
Sat. 5:00 PM  
Sun. 5:10 PM  
Mon. 1:30 PM

**The Sheep Detectives (PG)**  
(CC) (DVS) (2026) (110 mins)

**Screen 1 - Main Auditorium**  
Fri. 5:00 PM  
Sat. 8:00 PM  
Sun. 2:30 PM (OC)  
Mon. 4:45 PM  
Tue. 7:00 PM  
Thurs. 4:45 PM

**Screen 2 - The Screening Room**  
Fri. 7:45 PM  
Wed. 7:15 PM

**WTO/99**  
(NR) (2025) (142 mins)  
Post-screening guided discussion with Greenbelt councilmember Frankie Fritz

**Screen 1 - Main Auditorium**  
Sat. 1:30 PM

**Pressure (PG-13)**  
(CC) (DVS) (2026) (100 mins)  
Early members-only screening

**Screen 1 - Main Auditorium**  
Mon. 2:00 PM (OC)

**Tuner (R)**  
(CC) (DVS) (2025) (109 mins)  
Early members-only screening

**Screen 1 - Main Auditorium**  
Thurs. 7:30 PM



PETE REPPERT

LEST WE FORGET.

- News Review, May 25, 2023

## Letters Policy

Deadline for letters is 6 p.m. Monday. Submission does not guarantee publication. Letters should be no longer than 300 words (shorter letters are more likely to be published).

Letters may be edited for clarity, grammar, civility and space constraints. The News Review may add a comment from the editor if deemed necessary.

All letters must include the letter writer's name, physical address, and telephone number. Only the name will be published; the News Review will consider requests for the name to be withheld.



# Greenbelt News Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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PUBLICATION DEADLINES:

- Monday 2 p.m. Articles/photos over 700 words, Display ads (not camera ready).
- Monday 6 p.m. All letters to the editor (300 word limit).
- Tuesday 2 p.m. Articles/photos under 700 words, photographs not associated with a story.
- Tuesday 5 p.m. Co-op dropbox: Classified ads with payment only.
- Tuesday 6 p.m. Classified ads and camera-ready display ads.
- Email submission is available. Hardcopy submissions (delivered by respective deadline) may be mailed to the address above or left in the Co-op grocery store drop box or GNR external office door mail slot, as shown below.
- Payment must accompany ads except by prior arrangement.

MAIL SUBSCRIPTION: \$55/year

Greenbelt Community Center at 15 Crescent Rd.  
OFFICE HOURS: Monday and Tuesday, 2 - 4 p.m.  
GNR external office door mail slot is located up a few stairs 25 yards left of the Community Center's east door near the Municipal Building.



## Community Events

## At the Library

All county branch libraries will be closed Sunday and Monday, May 24 and 25, for the Memorial Day holiday.

Greenbelt Library's regular hours are Mondays, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Tuesdays and Wednesdays, noon to 8 p.m.; Thursdays and Fridays, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Sundays 1 to 5 p.m. For more information, call the Library, 301-345-5800; for Spanish, call Biblio Consulta, 301-358-6862.

## Storytimes

Friday, May 22, 11:15 a.m.,  
ages 2 to 3. Register at [pgcmls.info/event/16130236](http://pgcmls.info/event/16130236).

Wednesday, May 27, 12:15 p.m., ages 3 to 5. Register at [pgcmls.info/event/16130159](http://pgcmls.info/event/16130159).

Thursday, May 28, 10:15 a.m.,  
newborn to 2. Register at [pgcmls.info/event/16130194](http://pgcmls.info/event/16130194).

## Rotary Club Highlights Greenbelt Grows

The Greenbelt Rotary Club will host Greenbelt Grows founder and Greenbelt City Councilmember Danielle McKinney on Wednesday, May 27 at 7 p.m. This gardening and food sharing talk precedes the club's June 6 Greenbelt Garden Tour.

Greenbelt Grows' focus is increasing Greenbelters' access to nutritious local produce, through community gardens, sharing extra produce and learning about gardening, healthy eating and nature through connections between community members. Curious but intimidated? Start with a single pot, volunteer in one of Greenbelt's Three Sisters demonstration gardens or share a plot with a friend.

Did you know the city used a grant to purchase a mobile cold storage trailer to boost food access by storing and transporting produce from community gardens, merchants, residents and Farmers Market vendors? McKinney will review current gardening and food sharing initiatives in Greenbelt. The event is in the Community Center, Room 114, with refreshments and conversation at 6:30 p.m. before the 7 p.m. discussion. The Rotary Club meets every Thursday morning at 8 a.m. at the Greenway Center IHOP, except the second Thursday.

The Greenbelt Garden Tour on Saturday, June 6 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. features 12 Greenbelt home gardens and community garden plots, both ornamental and food gardens. The tour is a fundraiser for the Greenbelt Rotary Club's community service activities. Learn about those activities and purchase tax-deductible tickets at [tinyurl.com/ucyf2n7a](http://tinyurl.com/ucyf2n7a). The rain date is Sunday, June 7, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. See the website for rain status.

## Registration Open For Recreation Classes

Registration is now open for Greenbelt residents for Greenbelt Recreation classes and activities. Registration for non-residents opens at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, May 26. Classes begin during or after the week of June 15. Visit [greenbeltmd.gov/activityguide](http://greenbeltmd.gov/activityguide) to see the Greenbelt Recreation Summer Activity Guide.

## Golden Age Club

The Golden Age Club meets on Wednesdays at 11 a.m. in Room 201 of the Community Center.

There is one more meeting this month, May 27 - Bingo.

The Annual Book Exchange is scheduled for Wednesday, June 10 from 11 a.m. to noon. Requested items are books in good condition and magazines from the past year. Bookmarks will be available and perhaps some door prizes.

# Mental Health Awareness Month Wellness Walk

On Saturday, May 23 from 9 a.m. to noon, join the Greenbelt Police Department at Buddy Attick Park for a friendly walk dedicated to raising awareness and showing support for those in the community who need it most. Everyone is welcome.

Bring a friend, meet new people, enjoy the outdoors, share resources and support mental well-being together.



## Tie-dye Sundays June 7 and 14

Guests of all ages are invited to attend any of three free Artful Afternoon workshops in June: Sunday, June 7 from 1 to 2 p.m. or 2 to 3 p.m. at the Community Center or Sunday, June 14 from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. at the Springhill Lake Recreation Center. Just in time for Pride Month, use tie-dye to make fun and colorful designs on provided bandanas or bring a T-shirt, tote bag or other pre-washed cotton item from home. Guests are encouraged to sign up in advance at [sugeni.us/etqV](http://sugeni.us/etqV). Walk-ins are welcome as space permits. For more information about Greenbelt Recreation arts programs, visit [greenbeltmd.gov/arts](http://greenbeltmd.gov/arts). Programs are supported in part by the Maryland State Arts Council.

More Community Events  
are located throughout  
the paper.

## Free Orchestra Concert On Sunday, May 31

Greenbelt Community Orchestra's next concert will take place on Sunday, May 31 at 4 p.m. in the Community Center gym. The program will feature American music in honor of the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence, including Ferde Grofé's Mississippi Suite, the 4th movement of Dvorak's New World Symphony, Florence Price's Adoration, Leroy Anderson's The Typewriter and Gould's American Salute. The concert is free and all are welcome. Doors open at 3:30 p.m. For more information about the orchestra, visit [greenbeltorchestra.org](http://greenbeltorchestra.org).

## Favor's Table Giveaway

Favor's Table Community Giveaway will be held on Saturday, May 23 at 4 p.m. in the rear parking lot at Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church, 40 Ridge Road. They will give away food, new shoes, clothes, diapers, bras, underwear, socks, cosmetics, sanitary pads and household items -new and gently used depending on their purpose. A child must be present to receive shoes. No exceptions. To receive diapers, bring baby's birth certificate/health insurance card. Come with bags. First come, first served. No other ID required. For additional food assistance resources, go to [pgcfec.org/resources/find-food-food-pantry-listings](http://pgcfec.org/resources/find-food-food-pantry-listings) or [auntbertha.com/widget/660x234?c=2F8BC5&d=connectva](http://auntbertha.com/widget/660x234?c=2F8BC5&d=connectva).

## Astronomical Society Talk Thurs. May 28

The Astronomical Society of Greenbelt will meet Thursday, May 28 at 7:30 p.m. in Room 114 of the Community Center. ASG members Sue Bassett and Corinne Carter will discuss Questar to Seestar: 20th and 21st Century Small Telescope Design.

The meeting is free and open to the public. All are welcome. Children should be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

## GirlScout Troop 23035 To Host Diaper Drive

Members of Greenbelt Girl Scout Troop 23035 of 11 fifth graders will be collecting diapers of any size in packages opened or unopened as well as baby wipes. From Wednesday, May 20 to Wednesday, June 3, the troop will place donation boxes at the Co-op Supermarket, the Community Center and other locations around the city. They will also set up a booth at the Co-op on Saturday, May 30 from noon to 4 p.m. All donations will go to the, D.C. Diaper Bank.

The troop appreciates support for this effort to assist families who need but can't afford diapers and wipes. The drive will also help Troop 23035 work toward their Bronze Award. For more information or questions, send an email to [troop23035@gmail.com](mailto:troop23035@gmail.com).

## Greenbelt Concert Band Celebrates on June 7

The Greenbelt Concert Band will perform a special musical celebration as part of Greenbelt Day weekend, June 6-7. On Sunday, June 7 at 3 p.m. in the Community Center, enjoy a dynamic performance featuring a variety of musical styles as the band celebrates the spirit of Greenbelt with a free concert.

The Greenbelt Concert Band is grateful to the City of Greenbelt for its continued support in helping them bring music and joy to the community. Celebrate Community. Celebrate Music. Celebrate Greenbelt. Learn more at [greenbeltconcertband.org](http://greenbeltconcertband.org).

## PORCH May Schedule

The remaining May pickup dates for Greenbelt PORCH are as follows:

Saturday, May 23 - by 10 a.m.  
for Mathew Street to Megan Lane  
including Brett Place

Sunday, May 24 - after 6 p.m.  
for 11-S Ridge Road, 14 and 16  
Courts Ridge

Sunday, May 24 - after 6 p.m.  
for 8 and 10 Courts Southway.



**FREE 23RD ANNUAL  
GREENBELT  
JAZZ FESTIVAL  
JUNE 6, 2026  
1-7PM**

**ROOSEVELT CENTER GREENBELT, MD  
RAIN OR SHINE**

Sponsored by New Deal Cafe • FONDCA • City of Greenbelt



# This Week at the New Deal Café



Celebrating 30 Years in Greenbelt! Try Our New Menu & Drinks!

BECOME A MEMBER!\*



FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK!

113 Centerway, Roosevelt Center, Greenbelt, MD

Monday, 9am-9pm; Tuesday—Thursday, 9am - 10pm; Friday/Saturday, 9am - 12midnight;  
 Sunday, 9am – 9pm

REMEMBER TO TIP OUR PERFORMERS - IT'S THE ONLY WAY THEY'RE PAID!

\*\*\* RESERVATIONS: 301-474-5642 \*\*\*

| TH 5/21                                                                                                                                               | FRI 5/22                                                                                                                                                  | SAT 5/23                                                                                                                                                                            | SUN 5/24                                                                                                                                         |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>Classic Jam with The Low Rent Quartet<br/> <b>6:30 - 9:30pm</b><br/>                     Leans towards the blues, but other styles are welcome</p> | <p><b>D'Vibe &amp; Conga</b><br/> <b>8 - 11pm</b><br/>                     Blues, funk, rock group from Bowie, Md. features R&amp;B, Motown, and more</p> | <p>NDC JAZZ JAM, 2 - 5pm<br/> <b>The Bob Band</b><br/> <b>8 - 11pm</b><br/>                     Capturing the vibe, spirit, and arrangements of Bob Dylan's original recordings</p> | <p>ASL BRUNCH, 10:30a - 12pm<br/> <b>Charlie Owen &amp; Pocket Change</b><br/> <b>6 - 8pm</b><br/>                     Sweet soul and R 'n B</p> |

| MON 5/25                                                                                                                                                                                                          | TUES 5/26                                                                                                                                                      | WED 5/27                                                                                                                                                                                                        | TH 5/28                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | New Deal Cafe                                                                                                                                      |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p style="color: red; font-weight: bold;">MEMORIAL DAY</p> <p style="color: blue; font-weight: bold;">LIVE BAND KARAOKE w/ Mike Scott &amp; Friends</p> <p style="color: blue; font-weight: bold;">7 - 9:30pm</p> | <p>NDC Open Mic w/ Carla Monardes<br/> <b>6 - 9:30pm</b><br/>                     Sign ups begin at 6pm;<br/>                     Open Mic starts at 6:30p</p> | <p style="color: green; font-weight: bold;">Kim's Grand Rounds - A Songwriters' Circle</p> <p style="color: green; font-weight: bold;">7 - 9pm</p> <p style="color: green;">Musicians take turns performing</p> | <p style="color: green; font-weight: bold;">Swampgrass</p> <p style="color: green; font-weight: bold;">7-9pm</p> <p style="color: green;">Energetic, vibrant &amp; DC-based plays classic bluegrass to rock and progressive</p> | <p style="color: red; font-weight: bold;">RENEW OR BECOME A MEMBER OF THE NDC!</p> <p style="color: black; font-weight: bold;">See link below*</p> |

\*Join NDC! Go to NewDealCafe(dot) com, click on "ABOUT", then "BECOME A MEMBER OR RENEW."

FUNDING FOR THESE ADS PROVIDED BY A GENEROUS DONOR.



# A View of Greenbelt from Space

When Greenbelter Philip Larkin won a NASA Peer Award recently it came with his choice of location for an Earth-from-space image. "Of course I chose Greenbelt," said Larkin. The NASA Earth Observatory team published it on Earth Day along with some story notes.

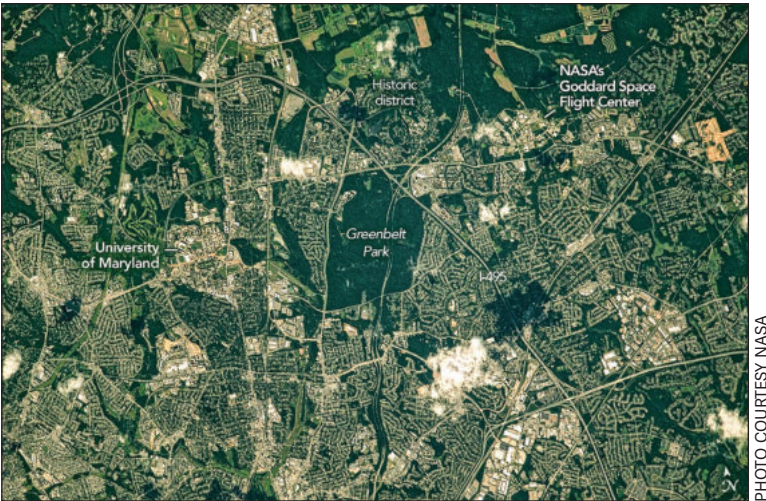
The photo was taken on July 30, 2023, a time of year when the region's vegetation is lush and green. One of the more prominent green spaces in this image is Greenbelt Park. The park's nearly five square kilometers (two square miles) contain forested hiking trails, several picnic areas and a campground. The land was once intended as a future extension of the city of Greenbelt, but it was acquired by the National Park Service in 1950.

Just north of the park, Greenbelt's historic district is laid out in a crescent shape. The district is one of three planned communities that arose in the 1930s as part of the New Deal program, intended to provide work for unemployed workers and to create affordable cooperative housing with accessible green space. Homes connect to walking paths, which in turn connect to one of the country's oldest planned shopping centers.

A collection of buildings east of the Beltway is NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center, established on May 1, 1959, as NASA's first space flight complex. Several patches of forested land separate some of the buildings. The large green spaces north of Goddard are a mix of forested land and agricultural fields on the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center, which include University of Maryland and USDA agricultural research sites. The main campus of the University of Maryland is visible just west of Greenbelt Park.

For more, visit [science.nasa.gov/earth/earth-observatory/belts-of-green-in-the-washington-suburbs](https://science.nasa.gov/earth/earth-observatory/belts-of-green-in-the-washington-suburbs).

This article is an excerpt of a story written by Kathryn Hansen, a science writer at Goddard Space Flight Center.



This image of Greenbelt from space was provided by the International Space Station Crew Earth Observations Facility and the Earth Science and Remote Sensing Unit at NASA Johnson Space Center. The image was taken by a member of the Expedition 69 crew.

## Chef Lou back in Roosevelt Center

After a five-year absence, Chef Lou is preparing to return to his storefront location in Roosevelt Center in early June.

### Tour County Organics Composting Facility

Join the County Executive's Office of Community Relations for a fun and educational National Composting Day celebration on Friday, May 29, at the Prince George's County Organics Compost Facility from 10 a.m. to noon. Learn easy composting tips, discover ways to reduce waste and enjoy a family-friendly tour, giveaways and a light lunch.

Space is limited; scan the QR code to register.

The facility is located at 6550 Maude Savoy Brown Road, Upper Marlboro.

Bring family and neighbors and work together to keep Prince George's County green and beautiful.



Scan to register.

### Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church

40 Ridge Road, Greenbelt  
Open hearts, Open Minds, Open doors  
Find us on [facebook.com/mowattumc](https://facebook.com/mowattumc)  
301-474-9410 <http://mowattmemorial.org>  
Pastor Evelyn Romero

**Worship Service, Sundays 9:30 - 10:30 a.m.**  
**Let's party! Celebrations from the Bible.**

### GREENBELT COMMUNITY CHURCH

One Hillside Road

**Join Us Sunday 10:15 AM for Worship**

[www.greenbeltcommunitychurch.org](http://www.greenbeltcommunitychurch.org)

**Rev. Aubra Love, Senior Pastor**

**ST. HUGH OF GRENOBLE CATHOLIC CHURCH**

- Daily Mass: Mon-Fri 7:15am\*, Sat 9am\*
- Sunday Mass:
  - Sat vigil 5pm\*
  - Sun 8am, 9:30am, 11am
- Confessions Saturday 3pm - 4pm.

Masks for the unvaccinated encouraged.

**CELEBRATE WITH US**  
135 Crescent Rd.  
[www.sthughofgrenoble.org](http://www.sthughofgrenoble.org)

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Masks for the unvaccinated encouraged.

**CELEBRATE WITH US**  
135 Crescent Rd.  
[www.sthughofgrenoble.org](http://www.sthughofgrenoble.org)

### Celebrate the Life Of David W. Lange

May 30, 11 a.m.  
Greenbelt Community Center  
Reception to follow service.

### Obituaries

The News Review publishes obituaries of Greenbelt residents, past or present.

You write it or we will if you prefer. We try to include information about participation in various activities and organizations, where the person lived and something about the family. A photograph and service information should be included. There is no charge.



### CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF GREENBELT

**Mass Sundays at 10:00 a.m.**  
**Community Center Room 114**  
**15 Crescent Rd**  
[cathcomgreenbelt.org](http://cathcomgreenbelt.org)  
**ALL ARE WELCOME!**

**A Roman Catholic Intentional Eucharistic Community**  
**OR - Join us on ZOOM!**  
**For ZOOM link:**  
[CCGI985+owner@groups.io](mailto:CCGI985+owner@groups.io)

"Whether peace is to be reached only after unimaginable horrors precipitated by humanity's stubborn clinging to old patterns of behavior, or is to be embraced now by an act of consultative will, is the choice before all who inhabit the Earth." – Universal House of Justice

### Greenbelt Bahá'í Community

[www.greenbeltbahais.org](http://www.greenbeltbahais.org)

### St. John's Episcopal Church

11040 Baltimore Avenue, Beltsville, MD 20704  
301-937-4292 [www.saintjohnsbeltsville.org](http://www.saintjohnsbeltsville.org)

**Welcomes you each Sunday for Worship & Sunday School at 10:00 AM**

### Mishkan Torah Congregation

10 Ridge Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770  
Rabbi Saul Oresky, Cantor Yael Fischman

*A welcoming, inclusive, and friendly synagogue offers something for everyone: young, old, single, married, and both Jewish and interfaith families.*

**Services at 8:00pm Friday and 9:45am Saturday in person and on Zoom**

For more information, visit [MishkanTorah.org](http://MishkanTorah.org) or call 301-474-4223  
A Dual-Affiliated Reconstructionist and Conservative congregation  
**10 Ridge Rd, Greenbelt, MD 20770**

### Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church

Postal address: P.O. Box 676, Laurel, MD 20725  
Phone: 301-937-3666 [www.pbuuc.org](http://www.pbuuc.org)

*Welcomes you to our open, nurturing community*

**May 24, 2026, at 3 p.m.**  
**The Presence of Absence**  
*Anthony Jenkins with Worship Associate Erin Wiley*

In the spirit of our May theme (Wow) and Memorial Day, we'll explore the experience of being missing in action and/or a prisoner of war - both for the service member and for their loved ones.

*Streaming on PBUUC's Facebook page, on Zoom, and in person. Worship service held at University Christian Church, 6800 Adelphi Road, Hyattsville, MD*





# City Information & Events

The strength of Greenbelt is diverse people living together in a spirit of cooperation. We celebrate all people. By sharing together all are enriched. We strive to be a respectful, welcoming community that is open, accessible, safe and fair.

## MEETINGS FOR MAY 25 - 29

Monday, May 25 at 7 pm, **NO MEETING - MEMORIAL DAY**

Tuesday, May 26 at 7:30 pm, **REGULAR MEETING - BUDGET ADOPTION**

Tuesday, May 26 at 3:30 pm, **SENIOR CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE - Greenbelt Community Center, Room 114, On the Agenda: Approval of March Meeting Minutes Amended & April Meeting Minutes. Discussion of the Not For Seniors Only Open Forum and September Open Forum.**

Tuesday, May 26 at 7 pm, **ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION - Zoom, On the Agenda: Feedback on Student Awards, Discussion of Calendar and Activities for 2026-2027 School Year, Discussion of Scholarship Account, Grant theme for 2026-2027**

Wednesday, May 27 at 7 pm, **NO MEETING - EID AL-ADHA**

Thursday, May 28 at 7 pm, **FOREST PRESERVE ADVISORY BOARD - Public Works, On the Agenda: Discussion of the Science Fund, State of Forest Report, Green Man Festival Lessons Learned, Forest Preserve PSA**

Thursday, May 28 at 7:30 pm, **ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY (GREEN ACES) - Zoom, On the Agenda: Discussion of Sustainable Maryland Certified, Green Man update, Sustainability Framework / Green Team Circles**

In advance, the hearing impaired are advised to use MD RELAY at 711 to submit your questions/comments or contact the City Clerk at (301) 474-8000 or email [banderson@greenbeltmd.gov](mailto:banderson@greenbeltmd.gov). This schedule is subject to change. For confirmation that a meeting is being held call (301) 474-8000. For information on public participation for the meetings above, visit the meetings calendar at [www.greenbeltmd.gov/calendar](http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/calendar).

## GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL - REGULAR MEETING

Tuesday, May 26 at 7:30 pm

**ORGANIZATION**

- Call to Order
- Roll Call
- Meditation and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag
- Reading of the Greenbelt Community Pledge
- Petitions and Requests
- Consent Agenda
  - \* Meetings
  - \* Committee Reports
  - \* Board of Elections Report #2026-03 (FY27 Budget Request)
  - \* Resignation from Advisory Board/Committee
- Approval of Agenda and Additions

**COMMUNICATIONS**

- Presentations
  - \* Older Americans Month Proclamation
  - \* Greenbelt Recycles & Composts Week
  - \* Water Safety and Drowning Prevention Awareness Month
- Minutes
- Administrative Reports

**LEGISLATION**

- FY 2027 Budget Adoption
- An Ordinance to Adopt the General Fund, Building Capital Reserve Fund, Cemetery Fund, Debt Service Fund, Replacement Fund, Special Project Fund, Green Ridge House Fund, Capital Projects Fund, Community Development Block Grant Fund, and Greenbelt West Infrastructure Fund Budgets for the City of Greenbelt, Maryland, to Appropriate Funds and Establish Real Estate, Personal Property Tax Rates, and Public Utility Tax Rate for the Fiscal Year 2027 Beginning July 1, 2026, and including June 30, 2027.
  - 1st Reading, Suspension of the Rules
  - 2nd Reading, Adoption

**OTHER BUSINESS**

- Greenbelt Station Central Park Planter Project
- State Highway Administration “Don’t Block the Box” Stripping at Greenbelt Road and Hanover Parkway Request Letter
- DEI Position Proposals
- Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Zoning Townhouses Issue
- Council Reports
  - \* NOT GOING BACK: Current & Former AANHPI Elected Officials of Prince George’s County Condemn Racist Remarks by Maryland Delegates Against Colleague Delegate Chao Wu
- Council Activities

In advance, the hearing impaired is advised to use MD RELAY at 711 to submit your questions/comments or contact the City Clerk at (301) 474-8000 or email [banderson@greenbeltmd.gov](mailto:banderson@greenbeltmd.gov).

This agenda is subject to change. For the most up-to-date agenda, visit [www.greenbeltmd.gov/municipalTV](http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/municipalTV) or call (301) 474-8000.

## OFFICIAL NOTICE - PUBLIC HEARING

The Greenbelt City Council has scheduled a public hearing to be held during the Regular Meeting of Council **Monday, June 8, 2026 at 7:30 pm**

Concerning the Charter Amendment Resolution of the Council of the City of Greenbelt to Amend §3-22 “Powers” of the City Charter to Authorize the City of Greenbelt to Engage in Collective Bargaining with Certain Eligible, Non-Exempt, Non-Managerial, and Non-Confidential City Employees as Provided in Article VIII of Chapter 13 of the City Code.

The Public Hearing will be held in person at the Municipal Building and virtually via Zoom. Public attendance and participation are encouraged.

All residents of Greenbelt will have a reasonable opportunity to provide written and oral comments and ask questions concerning the proposed charter amendment.

The proposed charter amendment is enclosed on Regular Council Meeting June 8, 2026, agenda packet posted on the City Web site at [http://www.greenbeltmd.gov](http://http://www.greenbeltmd.gov). For more information, please call 301-474-8000.

- Bonita Anderson, City Clerk

## FY2027 Budget Work Session Schedule

The Greenbelt City Council will hold a series of work sessions throughout April and May to review and discuss the FY2027 Proposed Budget with City staff. Community members are encouraged to tune in or attend to learn more about upcoming plans and priorities for our city.

Join us in person at 25 Crescent Road, or virtually via YouTube, the Greenbelt website at [www.greenbeltmd.gov/municipalTV](http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/municipalTV) livestream, Zoom, or on Verizon and Comcast cable channels.

View the full schedule of upcoming work session dates below:

- (May 26) Budget Adoption

## HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

City Offices will be closed on Monday, May 25, in observance of Memorial Day.  
**THE GREENBELT CONNECTION WILL NOT BE OPERATING.**

## REFUSE / RECYCLING SCHEDULE

Week of May 25

Monday Route - Collected Tuesday  
Tuesday Route - Collected Wednesday  
Wednesday Route - Collected Thursday  
Thursday Route - Collected Friday

*There will be no appliance, odd metals, hard plastics, or yard waste collections on Friday, May 29*

## UPCOMING NATURE EVENTS

**Kayaking at Buddy Attick Park**  
**Saturday, May 23 from 8 - 11:30 am**  
*Buddy Attick Park, 555 Crescent Rd*



Join Greenbelt Park Rangers and explore Greenbelt Lake by Kayak. Kayaks, vests, and paddles are provided at no cost, but supplies are limited. Reservations for kayaks are limited to participants 16 and up. Each session has 10 slots available to reserve. Participants are welcome to bring their own watercraft, vests, and paddles.



**Greenbelt Police Wellness Walk**  
**Saturday, May 23 from 9 am - 12 pm**  
*Buddy Attick Park, 555 Crescent Rd*

Join us this May in recognition of Mental Health Awareness Month for a friendly walk dedicated to raising awareness and showing support for those in our community who need it most.

## GREENBELT CARES PROGRAMS

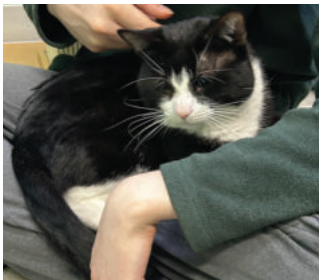
**STRONGER EVERY YEAR: A HEALTHY AGING AND PREVENTION FAIR**  
**Thursday, May 28, 1 - 4 pm**  
*Greenbelt Community Center, Ground Floor East*  
This engaging event will offer a variety of wellness-focused activities and resources, including memory and health screenings, reflexology, journaling for stronger memories, and essential oils. Designed to support healthy aging, the fair provides an opportunity for community members to learn, connect, and prioritize their well-being in a welcoming environment. Register with Cesar Herrera: 240-241-0037

**HOME SAFETY CHECKUPS**  
**Mondays June 15, July 20 and August 17 from 10 am to 2 pm**  
*Greenbelt Community Center, Ground Floor East*  
The City of Greenbelt’s GAIL Program is hosting Home Safety Checkups for adults ages 60 and over at the Greenbelt Community Center on June 15, July 20, and August 17 from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM. Participants can receive a self-guided home safety assessment, fall prevention tips, and information on resources and services to help make their home safer for aging in place.

**MEMORY CAFE - LEMONS INTO LEMONADE**  
**Wednesday June 3 at 1:30 pm** *Greenbelt Community Center, Ground Floor East*  
Explore how we adapt and change with life’s experiences with Arts for the Aging Teaching Artist Joy Jones. Joy uses theater, poetry, and visual art to demonstrate how to navigate some of life’s curveballs by creating art. Designed for aging adults and individuals experiencing changes in cognition.  
Register with Natalie: [ngarcia@greenbeltmd.gov](mailto:ngarcia@greenbeltmd.gov) or 240-244-6010

## FEATURED PETS

OREO



Ready for Adoption?  
**Call (301) 474-6124**  
7-year-old Oreo is a former tomcat who loves all the perks that come with being an indoor cat: cozy beds, warm laps, window sills for napping and birdwatching, and all the toys he can play with. This gentle, laidback boy has been at the shelter for 4 months now, so we’re really hoping he can finally live the comfy life he deserves in a forever home.

If you’re interested in adopting obliging Oreo, please reach out to us at [animalservices@greenbeltmd.gov](mailto:animalservices@greenbeltmd.gov) or call us at (301) 474-6124 for more information.

A majority (or quorum) of Greenbelt City Council members may attend community organization meetings, but no official Council action will be taken at these meetings. Please note that meeting locations may change after being published. For information on how to join these meetings, contact the respective organization directly.

## GREENBELT CITY CALENDAR

Be sure to check out the City calendar for all up to date events at [www.greenbeltmd.gov/calendar](http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/calendar).



## COMMUNITY MEETING: HANOVER PARKWAY BICYCLE PROJECT

The City of Greenbelt is hosting a community meeting to present and receive feedback on the 60% design plans to construct a shared use path for pedestrians and bicyclists along Hanover Parkway from Good Luck Road to Mandan Road.

**Community Meeting**  
June 4, 2026 at 6:30 PM,  
Greenbriar Community Building,  
7600 Hanover Parkway, #101

**Advisory Planning Board**  
June 17, 2026 at 6:30 PM, 15  
Crescent Road, Room #201

**City Council Worksession**  
July 6, 2026 at 7 PM, 25 Crescent  
Road, City Council Chambers

Learn more about the project at <https://www.greenbeltmd.gov/295/Special-Projects>.

## ARTS HAPPENINGS

Visit [www.greenbeltmd.gov/arts](http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/arts) for more information and many other opportunities!

Sign up for ARTFANS, a weekly e-newsletter, at [www.greenbeltmd.gov/list.aspx](http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/list.aspx)

**Fused Glass 5/25; 11am-1pm** (Greenbelt Community Center)  
Make a beautiful wall hanging or dish! Register for section 1 to make one six-inch glass piece or for both sections to make two pieces. Registration required: see page 24 of the spring activity guide for details - [www.greenbeltmd.gov/activityguide](http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/activityguide).

**June Artful Afternoons FREE** art workshops for all ages! 6/7: 1-2pm & 2-3pm (Greenbelt Community Center). 6/14: 2:30-3:30pm (Springhill Lake Recreation Center). Tie-dye colorful designs with provided bandanas or bring your own cotton item from home. Sign-up here: [sugeni.us/etqV](http://sugeni.us/etqV). Walk-ups also welcome as space and supplies permit.

## MORE ARTS HAPPENING SOON

- **June Art Share 6/14; 2-3pm** (Greenbelt Community Center)

Registration required for the following activities, see [www.greenbeltmd.gov/activityguide](http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/activityguide) for details.

- **Friends & Family Workshop: Microquilting** 6/5: 5:30-7:30pm (Greenbelt Community Center). See page 13.
- **Parent’s Night Out Meets** from 5-8:30pm twice monthly (Greenbelt Community Center). Upcoming dates: 6/5, 6/12, 6/26, 7/10. See page 5. If the program is full on your date of choice, please sign up for the waitlist!



## GREENBELT FARMER’S MARKET

**Every Sunday, 10 am - 2pm**  
*Municipal Building & Roosevelt Center Parking Lot, 25 Crescent Road*

The Greenbelt Farmers Market is back and proud to bring a fantastic mix of local vendors to Roosevelt Center in Old Greenbelt each year. Vendors offer produce, pasture-raised meats, sustainable seafood, and prepared entrees and sides, both frozen and hot.

For up-to-date information sign up for our the Greenbelt Farmers Market weekly customer newsletter on their website at <https://greenbeltfarmersmarket.org/>.



COUNCIL continued from page 1

improved transportation between Greenbelt West and the core so that youth can access recreation facilities, such as Braden Field.

Legislation

Council unanimously adopted legislation to establish a restricted matching grant fund to provide sustainable funding for grants that require the city to match some or all of the funds received.

Council introduced for first reading a charter amendment resolution to authorize the city to engage in collective bargaining with non-exempt, non-managerial and non-confidential city employees. By state law, there will be no further action on this item for 21 days after which there will be a public hearing and the resolution may be considered for adoption.

Stop Signs

Salmerón reported that motorists had rolled up more than 400 infractions on the first day of stop sign camera enforcement. As of May 11, 2,788 citations had been issued. Resident Lois Rosado objected to the number of speed and stop sign cameras in Greenbelt West, viewing it as a form of harassment. Salmerón explained that state law limits stop sign and speed cameras to within one-half mile of a school. Greenbelt West has three schools, more than any other area of the city.

Councilmember Silke Pope confessed to having received a ticket but protested that she did stop. Salmerón said that a human being reviews the videos. He mentioned that motorists should mind the painted street stop bars, but Pope noted that in some spots it is not possible to see cross traffic from behind the stop bar.

State’s Attorney

Prince George’s County State’s Attorney Tara Jackson gave a presentation on crime in the county. Jackson, while acknowledging the three murders last year in Greenbelt, stated that homicide is down in the county. Homicides dropped 40 percent in 2025 and are down

City Notes

CARES and Economic Development hosted a Job Fair at Beltway Plaza and Human Resources facilitated an Employee Health Fair at the Community Center. Economic Development attended the county’s monthly Municipalities Economic Development meeting and Public Information published the Recreation Summer Activity Guide.

After one cat adoption, Animal Shelter residents are six cats, eight kittens and five dogs.

Recycling/Sustainability hosted an information table at the Green Man Festival. Streets installed banners and furnishings for the Green Man Festival and the Farmers Market, and Mechanics received and trained on new tractors and turf equipment.

Public Works repaired cracks in the outdoor pool deck before inspection, and coordinated with Recreation on closing the Youth Center lobby restrooms for retiling.

Recreation worked on summer camp uniforms and supplies and talented teens presented the annual performance of the Dance Program’s Choreography Club.

Therapeutic Recreation hosted a Senior Art Social and Museum staff offered a history presentation to the Greenbelt Business Alliance.

33 percent this year. Carjackings are also down. Assaults and domestic violence, however, are rising.

Of major concern is violent crime, especially repeat gun offenders. She wants to focus on reducing the number of guns carried in the community. Her office is seeing what she called “impulse crimes,” where someone is carrying a weapon, with no intent to use it, then gets into an argument. This year, her office put forward legislation to permit the enhanced penalty for repeat gun offenders to be applied to those with weapons convictions from other states or the District of Columbia, rather than just to those with convictions in Maryland. This legislation, however, did not pass.

Other areas of crime her office is focusing on include a “truancy initiative” where they work with the county schools; a program

for first-time nonviolent offenders who successfully complete the requirements to have no criminal record; and business crime such as retail theft and financial scams, which can cause companies to leave the county.

A recent accomplishment was the development of a Crime Data Dashboard, released two months ago, showing the disposition rates for various crimes in 2025.

In the three fatal shootings in Greenbelt, those charged with the shooting of 14-year-old Carltin Bayong are scheduled for trial on September 20. In addition, three persons have been charged with the murder of Mancel Johnson. Jackson had no trial date for these defendants. No one has been charged with the murder of Juan Gonzalez.

Other Actions by Council

• Accepted a report from the Board of Elections which expects

to complete work drafting the legislation needed to implement ranked choice voting for the next election by July 31

• Accepted a report from the Arts Advisory Board recommending the Greenbelt Photography Group and the New Deal Café be granted recognition group status, which makes them eligible for rent-free meeting space and to make future requests for funding

• Authorized the city manager to contract with Dewberry and Davis to provide engineering and design services for the WMATA trail at a cost not to exceed \$150,000

• Heard Sandi Dutton and Rusty Beeg describe the American Legion Post 136’s Memorial Day Poppy drive with the councilmembers purchasing poppies on the spot

• Adopted a strategic planning framework identifying policy com-

mitments or actions not currently captured in the framework’s seven strategic pillars.

Mayor Emmett Jordan presented proclamations honoring Jewish American Heritage Month and National Physical Fitness and Sports Month and noted that it was National Law Enforcement Week.

 Don't be a doormat!  
Be ON one.  
\$23 gets you on thousands.  
[www.GreenbeltNewsReview.com](http://www.GreenbeltNewsReview.com)

NATIONAL POPPY DAY



FRIDAY, MAY 22, 2026



IN REMEMBRANCE  
OF THOSE WHO FELL  
PROTECTING OUR FREEDOM

Greenbelt Unit 136, American Legion Auxiliary



# City Recognition Groups Seek City Support in Upcoming Budget

by Matthew Arbach

Over the course of two work-sessions on May 6 and 13, the Greenbelt City Council met with some of the city’s recognition groups that are requesting in-kind services (staff support, facility and equipment usage), or either a project or operating grant from the city in the upcoming Fiscal Year (FY) 2027 budget.

On May 6, Recreation Department Director Greg Varda informed council that \$122,200 is available for these groups in FY 2027, a significant drop from years past. The total of groups’ requests came to \$199,307. A grant review panel, consisting of several members of city advisory groups, reviewed the applications. For those requesting funds, the panel used a scored, tiered approach to make a budget analysis and evaluate each group’s merits and impact on the city and its residents. The result was a recommendation to council for amounts that allowed all to receive at least some funding, within the bounds of the budget. Ultimately, council may choose to award the amount recommended by the review committee or may determine they wish to award a different amount. The review panel noted that each group has had a positive and valuable impact on the city in their respective areas.

**Soccer, Swimming, Baseball**

The May 6 session began with the Greenbelt Soccer Alliance, represented by Board President Jonas Cadwallader and VP Scott Borg. The current season fields 149 players, 50 percent of whom are Greenbelt residents; the rest from neighboring municipalities which is a matter of pride as it indicates how much the program is appreciated. Practices are held at Schrom Hills Park twice a week. Borg extolled its volunteer coaching. The panel recommended funding \$3,300 of the group’s \$4,000 request, to cover the Greenbelt resident registration discount.

Team President Liz Murray and Treasurer Christina Nickel fronted Greenbelt Municipal Swim Team. Started in 1957, the group has maintained a robust program for ages 4 to 18, as they continue rebuilding their numbers from the 2025 indoor pool shutdown. While it is a largely volunteer organization, the group asked for \$10,000 to pay summer coaching staff. The panel proposed awarding \$8,300.

Treasurer Patrick Keaton of Greenbelt Youth Baseball expressed appreciation for access to the city’s well-maintained (by Public Works) ballfields. Begun in 1951, the group has 20 teams, ages 5 to 13. Recent fundraising has resulted in a larger revenue surplus. The panel recommended that \$8,700 was warranted, of the \$10,500 request for umpires, equipment, uniforms and other costs.

Babe Ruth Baseball asked for \$3,500 for registration fees, uniforms, equipment and umpire fees. The panel noted its importance to the community and recommended funding in the amount of \$2,900.

**Boys and Girls Club**

The Greenbelt Boys and Girls Club asked for \$11,000, mostly for scholarships, volunteer and

coach training and equipment and facilities, with the panel deciding to recommend \$9,100 for the group. President Orin Howard related the organization’s healthy program of track and field, basketball and, recently, flag football; he looks to further grow a female team for the latter. Budget permitting, Howard said there are enough people interested to field several tackle football teams. He said he would likely return the group to 501(c)3 status to qualify for city funds.

**CHEARS, Farmers Market**

The CHesapeake Education, Arts and Research Society (CHEARS), represented by Carolyn Lambright-Davis, and its children’s Earth Squad, led by Jennifer Dudley, Bill Davis and Maggie Cahalan, was next. CHEARS began in 2006 and continues its work on the city’s Three Sisters Gardens, among other projects. Dudley spoke about her group’s participation in the Greenbelt Grows and Great Food Transition projects. Cahalan noted the convergence of environmental justice and at-risk human rights in the group’s mission. Based on a request for \$1,800 for renting a communal kitchen and an honorarium for its monthly workshop instructor, the panel recommended \$1,500.

President Scott Fifield, representing the Greenbelt Farmers Market, with Suzette Agans, the market’s SNAP coordinator, renewed their request for in-kind services. SNAP, said Agans, is feeling the impact of recent federal cuts. The market, according to Fifield, has three new vendors, having lost its beer and wine vendors. Fifield and City Manager Josué Salmerón shared their concerns around improving the site’s access to electricity and Wifi to assist in SNAP transactions, among other things.

**Refugees, Business Alliance**

Frank Gervasi of Greenbelt Refugee Aid Committee (GRACE) explained that at the end of May, the group will no longer be hosting a Ukrainian family, down from the original three families. Gervasi noted the loss in American aid such as USAID, and its serious impact on the lives of suffering people worldwide. He said that GRACE is exploring developing a cultural student exchange program. He also said that the group may be able to aid the city’s undocumented residents.

While considered a worthy and much-needed cause, council, staff and the panel generally felt that the group’s current efforts may no longer fit the criterion for city aid, as it no longer hosts any families. The group has received substantial donations in the past. From a request for \$10,000, an adjusted amount of \$7,900 was recommended by the panel.

The Greenbelt Business Alliance asked for \$5,000 to stage another business gala, likely in late January. Board Member Emeritus Paul Ricketts hopes to solidify the group’s paid membership, now at 34, and hopefully increase it to 50. Mayor Emmett Jordan noted the past gala’s high attendance and positive reception from the community. The panel felt that \$4,000 would be appropriate.

The meeting ended with a discussion on the possible need to cap operating grant requests. Salmerón added that each group has its own level of resources, affecting their requested amounts.

Varda reminded council that the panel recommendations are not binding, with council feeling that more adjustments would be needed in the distribution of funds.

**Black History, Culture**

The May 13 session began with the Greenbelt Black History and Culture Committee, represented by Lois Rosado and Joe Parks. The group continues its mission to educate on and elevate African American history, culture and society. Their yearly programs revolve around a theme, the next one being Black press to Black digital press, with outreach to local journalism schools. Black History Month in February and Maryland Emancipation Day on November 1 are the two main annual focal points. The group did not request funds, asking only to renew its recognition group status.

**Orchestra, Band**

The Greenbelt Community Orchestra, presented by Board President Anne Gardner, asked for \$4,500 for a stipend for its conductor and funds to rent and obtain rights to music. The group is three years old and gives three free concerts a year. A 250th U.S. anniversary concert will take place on May 31, featuring American composers. The panel recommended the group receive \$3,700.

The Greenbelt Concert Band is over 80 years old, according to General Manager Danielle Celdran, and provides only free concerts. The group often plays at city events, like the December holiday tree lighting ceremony and Veterans Day observance.

See BUDGET, page 10

**Greenway Learning Childcare Center**

**SEEKS ITS NEXT DIRECTOR**

**COULD IT BE YOU?**

Greenway Learning Center, a parent-led child care center, located in Greenbelt, Maryland, is looking for a passionate leader. The Director will provide collaborative leadership for high-quality early childhood programming in a safe, supportive, and inclusive environment; build strong partnerships with families, staff, and the community; comply with Maryland child-care licensing regulations; lead and support staff growth; cultivate a positive and respectful workplace culture; and work closely with the Board on budget and long-term strategic planning.

**Application Closing Date:** June 15, 2026 **Start Date:** Summer / Fall 2026 **Benefits & Compensation:** \$60,000 - \$85,000 commensurate with education, experience, and licensing qualifications; paid vacation and sick leave; and health insurance and education subsidies.

**Learn More:** [greenwaylearningcenter.com](http://greenwaylearningcenter.com)

**Apply:** Submit cover letter, salary requirements, resume, and three professional references to [GreenwayBOD@gmail.com](mailto:GreenwayBOD@gmail.com)

# Applications Now Accepted For Labor Day Festival Events

by Anne Gardner

The Greenbelt Labor Day Festival committee is already hard at work planning for this year’s event, which will feature exciting new bands, a new carnival operator with all-electronic ticketing and other entertainment. Applications are now open for Information Day, the Craft Fair, booths (for both professional food vendors and nonprofit activity booths) and parade. More information and application forms can be found at [greenbeltlaborday.com](http://greenbeltlaborday.com).

Information Day will take place on Saturday, September 5 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in Roosevelt Center. Organizations are invited to share information with the public. No food and no sales (including donations, memberships and subscriptions) are permitted. There is a small fee to register.

The Craft Fair will be one day only this year, on Sunday, September 6 from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. in Roosevelt Center. New this year: only items handmade by the crafter may be sold. There is a small fee. The popular Craft Fair is first



### Application Deadlines

Booths: June 15  
Information Day: August 21  
Parade: August 28

come, first served and always fills up quickly, so prospective vendors are encouraged to register as soon as possible.

On Monday, September 7, the Parade will take place along Crescent Road, starting at 10 a.m. at Buddy Attick Park and ending at the reviewing stand across from Roosevelt Center. The Parade is free to enter, and cash prizes will be awarded in several categories.

Other activities, such as the Rising Stars showcase and the Art and Photo Show, will open registration in June. Visit [greenbeltlaborday.com](http://greenbeltlaborday.com) for more information.

## Green Man Drum Circle



Participants drum along in the drum circle at the Green Man Festival.

PHOTO BY NICK HALL NH



### Greenway Learning Childcare Center SEEKS ITS NEXT DIRECTOR COULD IT BE YOU?

Greenway Learning Center, a parent-led child care center, located in Greenbelt, Maryland, is looking for a passionate leader. The Director will provide collaborative leadership for high-quality early childhood programming in a safe, supportive, and inclusive environment; build strong partnerships with families, staff, and the community; comply with Maryland child-care licensing regulations; lead and support staff growth; cultivate a positive and respectful workplace culture; and work closely with the Board on budget and long-term strategic planning.

**Application Closing Date:** June 15, 2026 **Start Date:** Summer / Fall 2026 **Benefits & Compensation:** \$60,000 - \$85,000 commensurate with education, experience, and licensing qualifications; paid vacation and sick leave; and health insurance and education subsidies.

**Learn More:** [greenwaylearningcenter.com](http://greenwaylearningcenter.com)

**Apply:** Submit cover letter, salary requirements, resume, and three professional references to [GreenwayBOD@gmail.com](mailto:GreenwayBOD@gmail.com)



DEI continued from page 1

duplication of effort. DEI is still important, George said, and moving the position to HR would provide support as it would no longer be one person looking for people to help.

McKinney Proposal

Councilmember Danielle McKinney presented her thoughts on the “next phase of the culture and equity work” in an eight-page document where she laid out her thoughts on where the city currently is with DEI, four possible ways of restructuring the position, contrasted the roles of an HR specialist vs. an equity and culture leader role and the goals of the DEI effort with pros, cons and budgetary impact.

McKinney said that equity and inclusion needs skilled dedicated leadership to guide it along with strong champions throughout the entire city organization who carry defined equity responsibilities within their own departments.

In her paper, McKinney reviews the various options, their pros, cons and budget implications. She asked that five commitments be part of the Fiscal Year 2027 budget process: 1) a written Justice, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (JEDI) implementation plan, 2) every city leader having defined equity and inclusion responsibilities with accountability built into their performance plans, 3) the establishment of a Greenbelt Equity and Belonging Subcommittee that meets regularly and reports directly to council, 4) an annual public progress report on JEDI implementation and 5) equity and inclusion should remain core Greenbelt values not contingent on any one budget

cycle.

McKinney asked for a worksession to look at implementation by September.

Public Comments

Comments about the possible DEI restructuring were made both during the public hearing and after McKinney laid out her proposal.

Resident Bob Rand asked council not to restructure the DEI office. He expressed concern that council and the public were not hearing from Smith about her experiences after three years in the position and her vision for the future. Her absence, he said, speaks volumes.

Resident Lois Rosado objected to the possibility of DEI becoming part of the Human Resources Department. Such work dies, she said, when placed in HR. The success of DEI efforts rests upon a renewed commitment from council to receive updates from department heads and provide oversight whenever dysfunction is identified.

Rosado charged that five African American employees have been “chased out” of administrative positions in the city and suggested that council conduct an exit interview with Smith, which may be revealing about the environment in city administration and take action to stop that pattern.

Rosado said that the councilmembers never really spoke to Smith or allowed her to present her plan. “The woman was sabotaged,” she said.

In response to questions, Salmerón confirmed that Smith is still on the city’s payroll and that the

position is funded through the end of the current fiscal year on June 30. Salmerón told the News Review that it is city policy to not comment on personnel issues so that he could not comment on Rosado’s characterization of the situation.

Rosado, Rand and others laid out their thoughts regarding the DEI position in a letter in the May 7 issue of this newspaper.

Resident Michael Hartman said the department must be kept independent as there is an inherent conflict of interest if the DEI function is moved to the HR

department.

Council Discussion

Mayor Emmett Jordan disagreed that putting DEI in Human Resources would kill the DEI effort and suggested that it might be time to have an outside consultant review where the city is and how to move forward.

Councilmember Jenni Pompei suggested that the DEI role may not have been thought through completely. This is not about the person, she said.

Councilmember Amy Knesel said that she is not sure the city is ready to have one person trying

to steer the ship. We need a pro, she said, to give us a list of what we need to do.

Councilmember Frankie Santos Fritz said that DEI is not a place where he would try to save money.

Salmerón said there is \$150,000 for DEI in the proposed budget but reminded council that the budget is balanced only by transferring \$2 million from cash reserves. In addition, the city has been notified of an additional increase in abatements of about \$1 million, which exceeds the budget’s allowance for the abatements.

GHI continued from page 1

to offer suggestions, share their experiences and comment on the 2025 Annual Report. Members expressed appreciation for individuals and departments of GHI staff, expressed their concerns with rising costs and looming trends and voiced both support of and reservations about a potential purchase of the property in question. It was noted that the purchase would be of the building, not the Co-op itself which is leasing the space along with the Greenbelt Arts Center and the once-again vacant old post office location.

Centerway Purchase

Importantly, the membership vote at the meeting was to approve or deny the motion of allowing expenditures to investigate and obtain answers to myriad questions surrounding such a purchase. GHI’s bylaws contain strict limits to how many resources may

be spent on a certain item/topic without membership approval, and thus the membership was given the opportunity to decide whether GHI could commit the funds to proceed with the actions needed to get the information required to know if doing this is a good idea.

When it came time for the vote, well over 95 percent of the membership present supported the motion. The board members present indicated that if findings from upcoming investigations into the purchase came back promisingly, there would be another membership meeting in the summer, likely in July, to approve or disapprove the actual acquisition of the property. Staff and the Board of Directors intend to provide as much useful information as possible ahead of such a meeting so that members can consider the facts before deciding how they will vote.

Elections

At the adjournment of the meeting, the election began for four (of nine positions total) two-year terms on the Board of Directors, and three (of three positions total) one-year terms for the Audit Committee. The election ran through 8 p.m. on the following day, with 349 total votes cast. (See below.)

Final Results of GHI Election

Board of Directors

- 295 Carl Sanders\*
- 293 Ed James\*
- 291 Stefan Brodd\*
- 291 Debbie McKinley\*

Audit Committee

- 284 Kerry Loring\*
- 234 Bill Jones\*
- 232 Michael Campbell\*
- 144 Nick Leanos

\* Indicates those elected



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School News

PGCPS Search Committee Selects Final Candidates for Superintendent

by Anna Bedford-Dillow

On May 8, the Prince George’s County Public Schools (PGCPS) Superintendent Search Committee sent the names of three finalists to Prince George’s County Executive Aisha Braveboy for review and final appointment.

“The superintendent search is a closed process and the finalists’ names are confidential,” announced the search committee on May 8.

In a January 23 press release, the Office of the County Executive noted that the search firm PoliHire, with whom they were working, would “oversee recruitment, vetting and stakeholder engagement while protecting the confidentiality of appropriate candidates.” “The County will provide regular public updates and meaningful opportunities for community input, including forums and stakeholder listening sessions,” said the January announcement.

The search committee was chaired by James C. Bell, who was appointed by the State Superintendent Carey Wright, and included county residents Jennifer Avelar, appointed by Governor Wes Moore, and Gordon L. Sampson, also appointed by the governor.

**Community Survey**

An online community survey was conducted this spring, which

the search committee used to help develop the desired leadership profile, key characteristics and interview questions for candidates, they reported via the May 8 announcement. That yielded more than 4,200 responses, reported the committee. Respondents called for a community-centered and transparent communicator; operationally strong and results-driven leader; strategic and responsible fiscal steward; culture-builder and organizational leader; and instructionally-focused education leader, said the committee. “The committee recommended that candidates have an opportunity for outreach with parent and student representative groups, employee organizations, and community and business leaders. The committee also encouraged more dialogue with Latino community groups due to the low survey response rate (less than 8 percent),” said their announcement.

**Public Forums**

At the time the names were submitted to the County Executive, however, no forums or stakeholder sessions had been held. Following community pressure, on Saturday, May 16 via social media an online community listening session was announced for Thursday, May 21. An announcement of the “public discussion” was issued on the County Executive’s website on

Public Discussion

Thursday, May 21  
6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.  
**Virtual Zoom Webinar**  
Registration is required.  
Register at: [tinyurl.com/PGCPSsearch](https://tinyurl.com/PGCPSsearch)

Tuesday, May 19, two days ahead of the event. The forum will be moderated and online; registration is required.

**Shawn Joseph**

When the News Review interviewed Interim Superintendent Shawn Joseph this spring he declined to say whether or not he would be applying for the permanent position.

**Timeline**

Braveboy now has three finalists to choose from and must send her selection to the county’s Board of Education before July 1. According to Maryland Education Code section 4-201.1, the candidate is then appointed by the county board after agreement on contract terms negotiated by the board’s chair. The state superintendent then makes the final decision to approve or disapprove the appointment to superintendent. The term of PGCPS superintendent is four years, beginning on July 1.

Pepco Request Mostly Denied; Expect Approx. 64-Cent Increase

On March 31, the Maryland Public Service Commission announced they denied much of the Potomac Electric Power Company’s (Pepco) request for a \$30.6 million true-up of the final year of its first three-year rate plan. In a filing on July 29, 2024, the utility had asked to recover spending it says it under-collected in rates in 2023. The Commission’s order instead grants the company \$13.36 million. (This case is separate from Pepco’s current base rate case, which it filed in October 2025.)

The Commission said it was mindful of the burdens increased electric rates place on customers, especially residential ratepayers. These concerns were noted by the Maryland General Assembly as well, when the legislature enacted the Next Generation Energy Act, which, among other things, allows utilities to continue to propose multiyear rate plans and other alternative forms of ratemaking for recovery of costs associated with providing utility services, but prohibits bill-increasing reconciliations in future multiyear rate plan cases.

“There is no denying that a bill increase of the magnitude proposed by Pepco risks increased utility unaffordability by many customers and does not align with supporting the economy of the State,” said Kumar P. Barve, chair of the Commission. “While the estimated monthly bill impact resulting from this decision does not fully mitigate the utility affordability risks faced by residential customers, it does at least – to some degree – buffer the impact.”

The order will result in a net monthly bill impact of 64 cents for the average residential electric customer, from April 1, 2026, to March 31, 2027. The Commission noted that approval of Pepco’s \$30.6 million reconciliation request – an amount approximately twice the company’s approved

budget for rate year three and nearly the same amount as requested by Pepco in its original case – would not be a just and reasonable rate in the context of the multiyear plan construct. In its order, the Commission pointed out that “multiyear ratemaking does not allow for unbounded and runaway cost recovery when the utility overruns its budget projections, which the company has clearly done.”

In October 2020, Pepco became the second utility to apply for a rate increase using a multi-year plan under a pilot ratemaking mechanism approved by the Commission in February of that year. The Commission, at the time, noted that it would allow for a reconciliation. This is the second permitted reconciliation after the end of the three-year rate-effective period.

The Commission noted that “approving Pepco’s full reconciliation request on a base foundation of questionable forecasting, followed up by substantial overruns of its approved budgets, would reward the utility’s performance rather than encourage a more disciplined approach to managing for results that benefit both the utility and its customers.”

In late December, the Commission denied much of the multi-year plan reconciliation sought by Pepco’s sister utility, Baltimore Gas and Electric. Instead of the \$152.3 million BGE requested, the Commission granted only \$77.2 million, also citing the company’s overspend of its budget.

*Information for this article comes from a Maryland Public Service Commission press release.*

Area Science Bowl Team Led By Greenbelter Wins at Last

by Robert Allen

On Tuesday, May 5, long-time Greenbelt resident Team Coach Robert Allen guided his Prince George’s County Heather Hills Elementary School Science Bowl team to a semifinal win over Cherokee Lane Elementary School and won the Championship against University Park Elementary School. The final match was extremely intense with University Park leading off and on and headed for the win until the final 25-point question. University Park failed to answer the final question, “Which period directly followed the Jurassic Period?” The buzzer sounded, marking the end of the game, but because University Park did not answer correctly, Heather Hills had its turn to answer. Heather Hills correctly answered, the Cretaceous Period, received the 25 points and won the championship, 240 to 220, ending a long 38-year drought. Allen won the championship twice with teams from his former school, Magnolia Elementary School. This was his third year coaching a team from Heather Hills. After the game, Coach Allen said, “Third time’s the charm!”



The Heather Hills Elementary School champion Science Bowl team is coached by Greenbelter Robert Allen. Back row, from left: alternate Evan Coverdale; Principal Dhaneena Holland; alternates William Olunkun, Ava Haigler and Mindy Cho; Allen; front row, from left: panelists Phaendra Owen, Amen Safawo and Hasset Safawo



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# Local Legacy Leaders Graduate

by Joan Whelan, Chris Martin and Ron Benjamin



Legacy Leaders visit the State House in November 2025. From left to right, front row: Fern Johnson-Clarke, Joan Whelan, Sara Covington; middle row: Val Daugherty, Valerie Britton, Debra Williams, Smiti Kumar, Chris Martin; back row: Barbara Hartman, Marcia Harrington, Marshall Klein, Ron Benjamin, Carole Pescatore, Mike Brown and Rob Coker

On April 30, 14 Legacy Leaders, their significant others, their instructors and their Maryland legislator bosses gathered in the Maryland House of Delegates office building to celebrate the successful completion of the 2025-2026 Legacy Leadership Institute on Public Policy (LLIPP) program, now in its 25th year. Greenbelters Ron Benjamin, Mike Brown, Marcia Harrington, Chris Martin and Joan Whelan were among the 2025-26 volunteer legislative leaders.

For the five of us from Greenbelt, it was a journey that began with a small notice in the August 7, 2025 issue of the News Review: “The University of Maryland’s Legacy Leadership Institute on Public Policy, in partnership with the State of Maryland, is looking for volunteers age 50+ to serve as volunteer legislative leaders during the 2025-2026 legislative session of the Maryland General Assembly.” Each of us, intrigued by the opportunity to learn new skills and by the possibility of applying our lifetime skills in an entirely different setting, signed up. We didn’t know it at the time, but by joining LLIPP we were following in the august footsteps of numerous Greenbelters, including (according to the News Review of December 7, 2023) Emmett Jordan, Molly Lester, Donna Hoffmeister, Michael Hartman and Murray and Carol Malveaux.



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Our training began in late September in a spartan conference room in Columbia. Two days a week for the next 10 weeks, we learned about the Maryland legislature, its people and its processes. We heard from the head of the LLIPP program, Wesley Queen; from former Legacy Leaders; from Maryland delegates and senators; and from legislative staffers. We made two field trips to Annapolis, where we visited the State House, the Department of Legislative Services, the Office of the (Maryland) Secretary of State, a lobbyist office and the Anne Arundel County Circuit Court. It was educational, and also a lot of fun.

Our legislative service coincided with the 2026 session of the General Assembly, from January 14 to Sine Die on April 13. In class we were warned that each legislator is different, and each legislator’s chief of staff is different, so each legislative office is different. It was true. Each of us had our own, unique experience.

**Joan Whelan**

I was placed in the office of House Delegate Emily Shetty from District 18 in Montgomery County. Shetty is the chair of the Appropriations Subcommittee on Health and Social Services (HSS), a subcommittee that reviews, revises and ultimately approves a full 40 percent of Maryland’s \$70 billion state budget. So, in addition to supporting the drafting of bills, testimony and constituent communications, I spent much of the session reviewing budget analyses developed by the General Assembly’s Department of Legislative Services. These budget analyses, developed for each of the state agencies under the purview of Shetty’s HSS Subcommittee, went beyond sheer numbers to bring in elements of

See LEADERS, page 12

PHOTO COURTESY BARBARA HARTMAN

## BUDGET continued from page 7

The group asked for \$4,375 to help pay its director. The panel decided to recommend \$3,500.

**Labor Day Festival**

President Karen Yoho, VP Donna Peterson and Treasurer Jon Gardner spoke for the Greenbelt Labor Day Committee. In its 72nd year, a new carnival vendor is on board this year, as well as an electronic wristband ticket, with presales and online purchase available for a variety of time periods. Bands have been booked and wandering entertainers will be present this year. The group asked only for in-kind services.

**The SPACE**

The SPACE Free Art for All continues its robust and varied programming, according to leaders Shaymar Higgs and Robert Rand. The group has lost a significant amount of space in Beltway Plaza, hampering its ability to provide activities and classes. It has partnered with local schools, particularly Kingsman Academy and Pathway Charter School, bringing their students into the facility. The group requested \$25,000 and the panel recommended \$20,800.

**Arts Center, GATe**

President Carol Shaw, VP Alan Duda and Treasurer Chris Dullnig were on hand for the Greenbelt Arts Center. The group is still in a rebuilding phase from the pandemic, working hard to sustain a steady and constant number of productions. Costs for the facility take up 60 percent of its budget. Based on a request for \$34,600, the panel felt that \$16,700 for operating expenses would be appropriate.

Greenbelt Access Television (GATe), now 40 years old, sustains its mission to provide community driven storytelling. President Frank Gervasi, Board Member Jennifer Dudley and Executive Director Daniel Thies were present. The organization is facing funding challenges from a large drop in its Public Educational and Governmental (PEG) fee funding, which is derived from charges on cable bills, an amount decreased by reduced cable television usage. The council expressed interest in brainstorming with GATe on other funding sources. GATe requested \$65,000; the panel proposed council offer \$23,600 for operating expenses.

**FONDCA, MakerSpace**

The Friends of New Deal Café Arts (FONDCA) requested \$2,900 to assist in funding its jazz and blues festivals, on June 6 and September 26, respectively. President Meghan Haney and VP Julie Winters spoke for the group. The funds will go toward paying the musicians and sound techs. These festivals are a big draw for both city and external residents. The panel recommended \$2,300.

The meeting ended with Greenbelt MakerSpace, represented by Volunteer Coordinator Donna Lockner, President Robert Candey and Board Members Tim Uber and Vikram Kashyap. Its Tool Library still makes its many items available for check-out, the group has made its repair cafés a monthly event, and both activities attract many users. DIY repair classes are also offered. Lockner said the group runs on a shoestring budget, with efforts provided by only volunteers. Of their \$7,132 request the panel recommended funding \$5,900.

**Tough Decisions**

This was the penultimate budget worksession and council will take the recommendations from the review committee into consideration as they decide what to award each group in next year’s budget. Further discussion, review and recommendations were to come on Monday, May 18, at their final budget worksession. The vote on the budget and its adoption is scheduled for Tuesday, May 26. Everyone understood that the FY 2027 budget will be tight, requiring many hard choices to be made.



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Review

## Film on Mussolini’s Dictatorship: Playbook for Trump Administration?

by Kurt Stand

Fascism first reared its ugly head in Italy after World War I, well before it spread to Germany, Spain and elsewhere across Europe. Reel and Meal at the New Deal Café’s April 20 screening of *The Dictator’s Playbook: Benito Mussolini* showed disturbing parallels between Italy’s descent into dictatorship in the 1920s and the steady assault on civil liberties and constitutional norms being imposed by the Trump administration. Directed by Canadian Mark Stevenson, the documentary was produced in 2019.

Italy – although on the “winning side” – was in crisis when the war ended in 1918. People had nothing to show after years of fighting, and Italy’s fragile democratic institutions were non-responsive to popular need. The documentary shows images of worker-occupied factories as unions organized a general strike, while peasants formed cooperatives and sought ownership of the land they worked. Mussolini saw opportunity in crisis – and sought power by promising to restore order (without justice).

Once a socialist and internationalist himself, Mussolini rejected his former beliefs during World War I and became an ardent nationalist who saw violence as strength. As the film documents, his path to power was extra-legal, destroying buildings of socialist unions and cooperatives and physically assaulting dissident intellectuals and political critics. He also used electoral means, seeking to gain legitimacy by running his party, the National Fascist Party founded in 1921, in parliamentary elections. They won only a few seats, so his next step was titled “The March on Rome,” in 1922, when armed fascist squads marched on the Italian capital. As the film recounts, they could have been easily dispersed by the army, but instead Italy’s elite (factory owners, bankers, large landowners, military leaders and the royal family), who feared popular demands for economic justice and popular revolution, turned to a “strong man.” The King appointed Mussolini prime minister. It took him less than four years to dismantle Italy’s democratic and constitutional structures and establish a dictatorship.

The decisive step, as the film recounts, was the 1924 murder of socialist deputy Giacomo Matteotti, who publicly and uncompromisingly denounced the fascist government. Although there was



PHOTO COURTESY NEW DEAL CAFE

The funeral of anti-fascist Giacomo Matteotti on August 21, 1924

public outrage, Mussolini went on the offensive, accepting political responsibility for the violence throughout the country under his rule, pardoning those arrested for killing Matteotti and proclaiming himself “Il Duce” – “The Leader.” Press freedoms were abolished, opposition parties banned, civic rights eliminated.

One can see in this some of the outlines of how Trump has behaved in office – declaring himself above the law, pardoning those involved in the January 6, 2021 assault on the capitol, attacking any who criticize him. The film noted other actions that serve as part of the “dictator’s playbook” that characterized Mussolini’s consolidation of power and pointed out contemporary parallels: disinformation, banning books, attacking judges, racism and nationalism and starting a war.

The screening event was sponsored by the Eleanor Roosevelt Democratic Club, honoring her passionate opposition to fascism. A lively discussion followed the screening – unnerving similarities between Trump and Mussolini were noted, but the conversation quickly turned to dialogue over how to prevent our country from becoming subject to authoritarian rule. That in turn led to a back-and-forth about the Democratic Party, with some stressing the importance of electing Democrats this November to put a check on the danger of fascism in our future and others arguing that Democrats have failed to stem the tide and therefore other solutions need to be found.



# Paddles, Peaks and Pastries: Venture Crew Builds Skills

by Jonathan Murray



PHOTO BY STACY STEWART

Venture Crew 746 traveled to Wye Island on Maryland’s Eastern Shore.

Over the weekend of May 15 to 17, local youth members of Venture Crew 746 took to the outdoors for another adventure, this time traveling to Wye Island Natural Resources Management Area on Maryland’s Eastern Shore. During the trip, the crew circumnavigated the island, paddling more than 15 miles by canoe and kayak. Battling steady winds and shifting tides, the group navigated the shoreline while taking occasional breaks to enjoy sandy beaches, snack and cool off – with some playful splashing along the way.

In addition to paddling, the crew honed their outdoor cooking skills by experimenting with new backcountry techniques. Using a reflector oven and a portable backpacking oven, they successfully baked fresh muffins and a hearty frittata, earning mostly enthusiastic reviews from the group. These experiences are all part

of the crew’s preparation for a major summer expedition to Maine. The upcoming adventure will include summiting Mt. Katahdin, followed by a 7- to 10-day paddle down the 100-mile Allagash Wilderness Waterway.

Crew leaders expressed gratitude to the local community for its continued support, especially through last year’s Winter Wonderland fundraiser. Proceeds from the event helped offset trip costs and allowed the crew to acquire essential equipment. As the program continues to grow, the group welcomes donations of canoes, kayaks and high-quality camping gear – and is currently seeking one additional canoe for the summer trip.

Venture Crew 746 is a coed program within Scouting America, open to youth ages 14 to 20. The crew offers opportunities for outdoor adventure, including climbing, paddling, biking and

backpacking.

For more information or to support the program, email [venturecrew746@gmail.com](mailto:venturecrew746@gmail.com) or visit [venturecrew746.org](http://venturecrew746.org).

Jonathan Murray is Venture Crew committee chair.



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LEADERS continued from page 10

performance: whether audit findings had been addressed, hiring gaps closed or federal reimbursements applied for. It was important to review these analyses in order to highlight for HSS Subcommittee members relevant questions and lines of inquiry to guide the HSS budget hearings with each agency. This whirlwind General Assembly session provided me a window not only on the legislative process but also the state of health and social service delivery across Maryland.

Chris Martin

Serving as a Legacy Leader for Majority Whip Delegate Ashanti Martinez provided me with an incredible opportunity to experience the daily inner workings of the Maryland General Assembly. He and his chief of staff prioritized accessibility, transparency and active listening, fostering an environment in which constituents could feel heard. For me, as a volunteer staff member (as well as a constituent), they did an amazing job of making me feel seen and heard, tasking me with responsibilities that were challenging but not overwhelming. Our chief of staff encouraged a friendly and collaborative workplace, which included in-depth discussions on committee hearings, floor sessions and procedures for pending bills. My role involved greeting lobbyists, advocacy groups and community members and discussing their viewpoints with the team. My responsibilities also included reviewing bills, drafting testimony for committee hearings and cataloging messages from constituents. Looking ahead, the enormous number of calls and emails Martinez received underscored the challenges currently facing Maryland: the building of data centers, the increasing cost of living, the need for more job creation, healthcare access and protection of our most vulnerable communities. My experience was extremely rewarding and reinforced a simple reality:

democratic systems function best when we are active, and our representatives are informed, empowered and engaged.

Ron Benjamin

I had a completely different experience from my fellow Legacy Leaders, because my internship was at an executive agency, the Office of the Secretary of State (OSOS), not in the legislature. OSOS is a tiny agency with a diverse set of responsibilities. For example, they manage Maryland's relations with sister states in foreign countries, they maintain the Code of Maryland Regulations, they authenticate official documents that Maryland residents want to submit to foreign governments and they run the Maryland trademarks and service marks registry. My assignments reflected that diversity: I entered a lot of data into the OSOS subscriptions database, and helped design an arrangement that reduced the data entry workload by about 90 percent. I was one of the staffers who helped welcome a visiting Qatari delegation to the State House. I helped a small team do the final editing of the Governor's Subcabinet for International Affairs' 2025 Annual Report to the Governor. And I worked with fellow Legacy Leader Rob Coker to propose that Maryland contact Gyeongsangnam-do (province), one of Maryland's sister states in South Korea, to gauge interest in using existing test facilities in Maryland to perform environmental testing of new Korean satellites. I loved it. Most days when I went into the OSOS office I didn't know what I was going to do that day. But I knew it was going to be interesting.

If you would like to join the 2026-2027 LLIPP program, visit [sph.umd.edu/research-impact/laboratories-projects-and-programs/legacy-leadership-institute-public-policy](https://sph.umd.edu/research-impact/laboratories-projects-and-programs/legacy-leadership-institute-public-policy) or email Wesley Queen at [WQueen@umd.edu](mailto:WQueen@umd.edu).

SPREE continued from page 1

Avenue in College Park. Witnesses reported the man, who was later identified as Simpson, fired several shots. No one was reported injured at that location.

A short time later, Simpson shot at a car with a 64-year-old man inside on Riverdale Road at the Baltimore-Washington Parkway in Riverdale. A bullet struck the car's window, and the driver suffered lacerations to his head as a result, though he was not struck by the gunfire. He was transported to a hospital with injuries that were not considered life-threatening.

Minutes later, Simpson's car struck another vehicle at 67th Avenue in Riverdale. This collision caused Simpson's car to overturn and he exited his own car and carjacked a nearby Nissan. During the carjacking, Simpson shot at a minimum of four victims at that location. One man was struck by the gunfire and was critically injured. That man is expected to survive his injuries.

At this time Inzeo was off-duty and travelling in his own personal vehicle on his way to pick up his children from school. His wife texted him to warn him of a person who was shooting in the area.

Witness and Follow

Simpson was carjacking a woman, whom he shot at according to the PGPD report, stealing her Toyota at Kenilworth Avenue and Good Luck Road in Riverdale. As he was driving, Inzeo witnessed the carjacking, though he didn't see or hear shots. "I saw the lady being carjacked," Inzeo told the News Review, and she reminded him of his mother, who lives nearby. "I didn't know much of the before



PHOTO COUTESY MATTHEW INZEO

Domenek Inzeo, left, and her husband Matthew Inzeo

facts, that there were other incidents," said Inzeo. "I didn't think I was going to chase him." However, that's what Inzeo did, following the man and relaying his location and direction to his wife, who transmitted the suspect's location in real time to officers and partner law enforcement agencies across the county.

When Simpson reached Dora Kennedy French Immersion (DKFI) School on Edmonston Road in Greenbelt he attempted but failed to carjack a Honda in the 9000 block of Edmonston Road. Then he turned his attention to Inzeo and tried to carjack him. "We were close enough to have a conversation," Inzeo told the News Review. "He said, 'Come here; give me your car!' I shouted, 'No!'... or maybe something stronger," recalls Inzeo. Simpson then fired at Inzeo, who ducked. Then Inzeo drove his car onto the grass. "My intention was to stop the threat," said Inzeo, who turned his car

around in the grass and headed back in the direction of Simpson. At that point armed Park Police were arriving on the scene and Inzeo yelled to them, "That's the guy! That's the guy!" Simpson turned his rifle on the three Park Police officers but it's believed he was out of bullets and he dropped it. Inzeo said he and the Park Police officers ran toward Simpson and apprehended him.

He Couldn't Get Away

"I know they say it's heroic," said Inzeo about his pursuit, "but I just felt like he couldn't get away." Which is what he told his chief when he asked why he did what he did. "I couldn't let

him go. I couldn't let him get away with it." Inzeo said he later learned the two rounds fired at him were the final rounds in the AR-15 style rifle that Simpson had been using, but that he had another weapon with him. So, it was a good thing he didn't get any further, reflected Inzeo, who said it seemed like Simpson may have been trying to shoot as many people as possible.

As he was in pursuit, Inzeo said he was thinking how it could end and hoping his wife would be there or would have been able to send backup for him. "And she came through," he said.

In all, the chase was only a few minutes long for him, beginning at Kenilworth and Good Luck, to where Simpson did a u-turn, driving the wrong way back up the 495 ramp, and turning into Edmonston Road, where DKFI is located. Inzeo's chase lasted only a few miles to DKFI, which he said he initially reported

See SPREE, page 13

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# Police Blotter

Incidents reported here occurred May 11-17, 2026. Readers are encouraged to contact the police if they have information that may aid in an inquiry. Call the non-emergency number 301-474-7200 or email [pd@greenbeltmd.gov](mailto:pd@greenbeltmd.gov). Times provided are when the incidents were reported.

**Incident Summary**

Greenbelt Police reported two deaths and two mental health diversions, one involving suicide. One missing person case was resolved, and a girl missing from Hyattsville was found and taken home.

**Assist**

On May 15 at 5:34 p.m. near 8950 Edmonston Road, a man committed multiple carjackings and shootings throughout the county before crashing a vehicle and attempting another carjacking in Greenbelt. He was pursued and ultimately apprehended by the Prince George's County Police Department. Greenbelt officers responded immediately to the scene, where they searched for injured individuals and secured both Greenbelt Middle School and the Dora Kennedy French Immersion School. Officers conducted safety sweeps of both schools and confirmed that all students and staff were safe. After ensuring public safety, the Greenbelt Police Department coordinated a reunification and dismissal plan to safely release students to their parents and assigned buses.

**Carjacking**

On May 14 at 12:28 p.m. near Shell Foodmart, a man getting gas was approached by two suspects dressed in all black and armed with handguns. They demanded his shoes, wallet, jacket and keys before fleeing the scene in his vehicle toward the Metro Station. Police located the abandoned stolen vehicle at the intersection of Cherrywood Lane and Cherrywood Court.

**Shooting**

On May 11 at 5:46 a.m. near 7316 Hanover Parkway, officers found someone who had been shot in the parking lot. They provided critical medical assistance to the victim, who was then transported to the hospital.

**Assault**

On May 12 at 2:38 p.m. near 5510 Cherrywood Lane, two people who knew each other got into a physical confrontation and assaulted one another. Charges will be submitted.

**Break-in Arrest**

On May 17 at 3:47 a.m. near 9104 Springhill Lane, a man kicked in an apartment door and tried to enter. The resident stated that the man does not live there. The man was informed that he was not permitted on the property and warned that any further attempts would result in arrest; he returned and was arrested for trespassing.

**Disorderly Arrest**

On May 15 at 5:39 p.m. near 6040 Greenbelt Road, a woman fell and hit her head and was taken to the hospital. While on the scene, her friend became disorderly and was arrested.

**DUI Arrests**

On May 11 at 9:18 p.m. near 7800 Kenilworth Avenue, officers stopped a vehicle driving in an unsafe manner and arrested the driver for DUI after he displayed indicators of impairment.

On May 14 at 3:04 a.m. near 6814 Landon Court, officers responded when a vehicle struck a parked vehicle. The driver was arrested for DUI.

**Fraud**

On May 14 near 7845 Jacobs Drive, debt collection workers contacted a man about a utility account opened in his name in Texas.

**Theft and Shoplifting**

On May 11 at 11:33 a.m. near 6100 Greenbelt Road, a woman was detained by loss prevention staff for shoplifting; she had an open warrant through Prince George's Sheriff's Department, and was arrested and released to Prince George's Department of Corrections on the warrant.

On May 11 near 7810 Hanover Parkway, a package was stolen.

On May 13 at 5:28 p.m. near 6100 Greenbelt Road, a man was apprehended for shoplifting and banned from the property.

On May 14 at 2:54 p.m. near 6000 Greenbelt Road, someone stole merchandise and fled in a vehicle.

On May 15 at 1:46 p.m. near 6100 Greenbelt Road, a woman was cited for shoplifting and released; at 8:23 a.m. near 7704 Hanover Parkway, a package was stolen overnight.

On May 17 at 12:54 p.m. near 6100 Greenbelt Road, someone stole merchandise.

**Vehicle Crimes Stolen Vehicles**

Three vehicles were stolen: on May 12 near 7814 Hanover Parkway, a silver-colored 2022 Honda CR-V Touring (Md. 8EZ7658), and near 6622 Lake Park Drive, a white 2015 Infiniti Q50 (De:00347604), and on May 14 near 6212 Breezewood Court, a black 2017 Jeep Laredo (NJ: S28JDU).

**Theft from Auto**

Tags were stolen from five vehicles: on May 11 near 6440 Cherrywood Lane, Va. THP6398 (front); on May 12 near 7505 Mandan Road; on May 13 near 54 Crescent Road, Md. 3FR5025 (rear); on May 16 near 6118 Breezewood Drive, D.C. JR5532 (front); and near 7732 Hanover Parkway, Md. 6CW2624 (front).

On May 16, near 7200 Hanover Drive, three KIA SUVs had all four tires stolen.



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# Simpson, 68, Was Serving Life For Beltsville Murder; Released 2023

by Anna Bedford-Dillow

Larry James Simpson, the 68-year-old man facing 66 charges, including 16 counts of attempted murder for his armed crime spree in the area on Friday, May 15 (see article on page 1), had already been sentenced to life plus 40 years for a Beltsville murder, attempted murder and attempted rape and robbery.

**1983 Murder**

Maryland court records reviewed by the News Review show that in 1987 Simpson was convicted of first-degree murder, three counts of robbery with a dangerous weapon and one count of assault with attempt to murder, rape and rob. These charges stemmed from a break-in at a Radio Shack store in Beltsville in 1983, when Simpson was 25. Simpson's arrest came four years after the Beltsville killing, when Simpson had been identified with the help of another man whose fingerprints

were found at the electronics store after the killing. By 1987, Simpson was already serving a sentence of 10 to 30 years for robbery at a maximum-security facility in Virginia and had to be extradited to Prince George's County to face the charges, according to reporting from the Washington Post that year. The man who was killed in the robbery was 21-year-old store employee John Allister Parker. Simpson was subsequently sentenced to life in prison.

**Attempted Escape**

Following his conviction in 1987, Maryland court records show Simpson attempted to escape from the Prince George's County Detention Center. The Washington Post reported that at night, four inmates scaled a 12-foot brick wall in the outdoor recreation yard, pried open loose metal fencing above it and went

through the eight-foot chain-link fence on top. They then fled to further perimeter fences. Three, including Simpson, were quickly recaptured inside the grounds but the fourth escaped and was apprehended almost 24 hours later, walking north along Ritchie-Marlboro Road near Brown Road, according to the Washington Post.

**Appeals and Release**

Court records show Simpson had post-conviction hearings in 1989, 1997, 1998 and in 2022 he filed a motion requesting drug and alcohol evaluation, which was granted and he was transferred to the Department of Health. In October 2023 he was released; his life-plus-40-years sentence was modified to all but 35 years, 5 months and 1 week suspended.

Simpson is now being held without bond and will appear in court in June.

## SPREE continued from page 12

as Greenbelt Middle because that's what the school was when he himself attended it.

**Schools Lock Down**

Several area schools near the various incidents were placed on a lockdown, which Prince George's County Public Schools initially reported to be: Beacon Heights Elementary School, Berwyn Heights Elementary School, Paint Branch Elementary School, Greenbelt Middle School, Greenbelt Elementary School, Bladensburg High School and Eleanor Roosevelt High School. Later the lockdown was lifted for all but Greenbelt Middle and DKFI (which was on lockdown but not included in the PGCPD announcement). Neighboring Springhill Lake Elementary, which dismisses students at 1:40 p.m. each afternoon, was not in session and not placed on lockdown.

During dismissal, which is 4:10 p.m. for DKFI and Greenbelt Middle, numerous officers, including Greenbelt police, were on the scene, Edmonston Road remained closed, and DKFI students were moved to the middle school to be released to parents from that school building, in the direction of Franklin Park rather than Edmonston. Though delayed, buses

were able to pick up students from both schools.

**Off-duty Role**

Several people have asked Inzeo why he wasn't carrying a gun with him, he says. After two decades as an officer, even his children think of him as "Officer Inzeo" he says, and so he's been trying to leave more of that behind as he focuses on being "dad." Inzeo will celebrate his 20-year anniversary with Prince George's County Police Department in July. His wife has been an officer for 19 years.

"It worked out," says Inzeo. "It was good teamwork."

Speaking after Simpson's apprehension, PGPD Chief George Nader called the off-duty officer's efforts vital and brave. Though he didn't name the officer, Inzeo has since identified himself as the officer. "The bravery to follow someone that's armed with an AR-15 rifle that you know has already shot at people and to continue to follow him ... and he even after [Inzeo] was shot at — he was unarmed but still understood the magnitude of this incident and the threat to the community — still engaged with the apprehension with the United States Park Police. I've not seen

bravery like that in my 33 years of service," said Nader.

**Simpson in Custody**

Simpson was transported to the hospital for treatment of injuries that police believed occurred during the car crash in Riverdale, when his vehicle overturned. He has since been released from the hospital and is in the custody of the Department of Corrections. He is currently charged with 66 offenses, including 16 counts of attempted first-degree murder, 16 counts of attempted second-degree murder and related charges, and more charges may be pending. Simpson also has a significant criminal history, including a 1983 Beltsville murder (see story above).

Detectives would like to speak to witnesses with information relevant to this case as well as hear from any additional victims. Anyone who has information and would like to speak to a Gun Crimes Unit detective, call 301-772-8960.



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**BOXED:** \$11.50/column inch. Minimum 1.5 inches (\$17.25). Deadline 2 p.m. Monday for ads that need to be set up, including those needing clip art and/or borders. 6 p.m. Tuesday for camera-ready ads. Certs and Notarizations each \$10.

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Sports



On Tuesday, May 5, the Eleanor Roosevelt High School Girls Varsity Softball Team achieved an amazing 22 to 4 victory over Oxon Hill High School, winning the county championship. Their hard work, dedication and team spirit truly paid off, said School Counselor Loethia Lomax-Frazier in an email announcing the victory.

PHOTO COURTESY ERHS



PHOTO BY JON GARDNER

A red-shouldered hawk feeds her babies in a nest in Woodland Hills.



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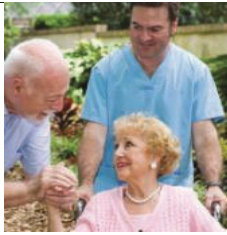
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Bike Ride Celebrates Patuxent's 90 Years

As part of the 90th Anniversary Celebration, the Friends of Patuxent will host a bike ride on the North Tract of the Patuxent Research Refuge on Sunday, June 7, starting at 8:30 a.m.

Participants will enjoy a scenic ride through the North Tract, the largest area of the Refuge. Along the route, the Friends of Patuxent will highlight key milestones from the Refuge's legacy, from groundbreaking wildlife research to the protection of native species and ecosystems that continues today.

This family-friendly event will have a relaxed pace and is designed for riders of all experience levels. There will be opportunities to stop and enjoy wildlife or ask questions. The ride length will be 10 miles (five miles out and five miles back). Participants will meet at the North Tract Visitor Center at 230 Bald Eagle Dr., Laurel. No registration required.

Campfires, Hikes At Greenbelt Park

The National Park Service is offering weekly campfire programs at the Loop B Campfire Circle. On Fridays at 7:30 p.m., the program is Welcome to Washington. On Saturdays at 8 p.m., there is programming alternating between nature and history topics to coincide with the nation's 250th anniversary. The remaining programs for May are: May 23, The History of Memorial Day; and May 30, The One Man Irish Band.

Also, on Sundays at 1 p.m., Hike with a Ranger meets at the Dogwood Trail parking lot. The ranger leads a nature hike focused on the flora and fauna of Greenbelt Park in a beautiful and picturesque setting.

Greenbelt Park is open every day from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. The Ranger Station is open from 8 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. The campground is open 24 hours a day, year-round, for registered campers and their guests.

Visit [nps.gov/gree/planyourvisit/calendar.htm](http://nps.gov/gree/planyourvisit/calendar.htm) for more information.

Spellman Overpass Resistance Fridays

Join the weekly protest on Spellman Overpass, Fridays (except in rain, wind or snow) from 3:30 until 5:30ish. Flags and big-letter messages are provided to cheerfully encourage Parkway motorists' awareness. To minimize driver distraction, extra signage is discouraged.

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# What’s in Our Lake? Turtles!

by Joseph Ralbovsky

Who among us has walked the perimeter of our beloved Greenbelt Lake and not wondered, “What’s in the Lake?” Its serene waters beckon imaginations toward wonderment.

This article provides a cold-blooded fact-driven response: In our lake are turtles.

I recently sat down with Greenbelt’s Environmental Coordinator Kevin Carpenter-Driscoll to discuss this reality and educate News Review readers about this elusive, sometimes fearsome reptile.

### At Least Four Species

Carpenter-Driscoll estimated, “Our lake has approximately one jillion turtles, of at least four species.”

Red-eared sliders may be identified via a distinctive red patch on the side of the head. These are an invasive but naturalized species from the Mississippi region and may grow quite large compared to our native aquatic turtles, often outcompeting them for resources.

Painted turtles are smaller than the red-eared sliders and may be distinguished by yellow spot markings on the top of the head.

Common snapping turtles, the largest turtles in the lake, are capable of living more than 100 years.

Musk turtles are tiny but can release a foul smell when feeling threatened.

### A Deep Dive

Carpenter-Driscoll continued on with more and more information until we were positively swimming in facts. For instance, some Maryland turtles – which tend to lay eggs between May and June, to hatch between August and October – produce offspring whose sex is determined by the egg’s incubation temperature (hotter conditions producing more females and cooler ones producing more males.)

But perhaps the most crucial facts Carpenter-Driscoll had for Greenbelters are these:

Firstly: Do not feed the turtles, as this may degrade their health by causing artificial dependency or through disrupting their normal diet, which consists of varied aquatic plants, insects, fish and other small aquatic delights.

Secondly: Turtles may be very long lived – up to 40 years for some species (or more for snappers). Obtaining or cohabiting with turtles may mean committing to a lengthy relationship. Anyone thinking of getting one as a pet should take this into consideration.

Carpenter-Driscoll works alongside the city’s other public servants to safeguard Greenbelt’s residents – human and animal.

If you find yourself lucky enough to be traipsing along a footpath, or staring out glassy-eyed at Greenbelt Lake’s well-loved waters, know this: there’re turtles in there.



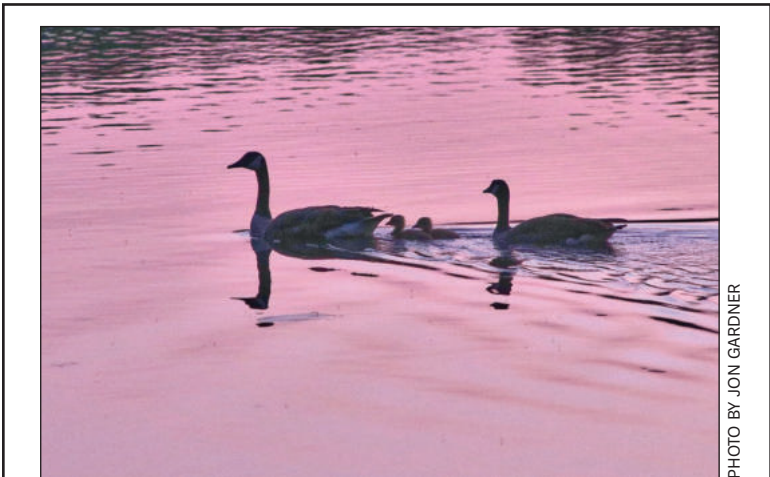
Turtles enjoy the lake on May 17.



A baby turtle in a backyard of Maplewood Court on May 17



- Photos by Anna Bedford-Dillow



A goose family crosses Greenbelt Lake.

## Sculpture Class

Participants enjoy a sculpture class at the Community Center with instructor and Artist-in-Residence Chris Corson.



Meshan Lehmann works on a figure.



Tom Baker works on a sculpture.



Donna Hemans works on a vase.

- Photos courtesy Tom Baker

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